

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed July 19, 2006, the Examiner rejected claims 1-10 and 16-19 and objected to claims 20-21, but indicated claims 20 and 21 as allowable in independent form. Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Election/Restrictions

The Office Action indicates that Claims 11-15 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention. Applicants have canceled claims 11-15. Applicants maintain that the initial Election/Restriction requirement was improper; however, due to the current consideration of all presently pending claims, Applicants make no further arguments. Applicants, do, however, reserve the right to traverse any non-consideration of claims in the future.

Drawings

The Office Action indicated that the drawings failed to show reference numeral 48 as recited in the specification on page 14, line 29. Applicants have amended the specification to cancel the recitation of reference numeral 48. In light of this amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the objection under 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) upon review.

Claim Rejections 35 USC 102 & 103

Claims 1-3, 5-6, 8-10 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Czaplicki et al. (US2004/0124553). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 4, 7, 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Czaplicki et al. ('553) in view of one or more of the following references: Schmidt et al. (US 3,692,620), Agrawal (US 5,707,473), and Wycech (US 6,332,731).

The Office Action indicated that the applied Czaplicki reference has a common inventor with the instant application. The Office Action further indicated that a proper showing under 37 CFR 1.132 or an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131 might overcome this rejection. As such, Applicants have submitted a Declaration Under C.F.R. section 1.131. This declaration was submitted to Examiner Afzali on September 7, 2006 and it was agreed between Examiner Afzali and the undersigned that the declaration was sufficient to overcome the rejections based upon the current references of record.

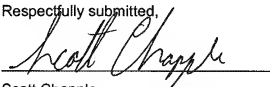
CONCLUSIONS

In view of Applicants' amendments and remarks, the Examiner's rejections are believed to be rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and requests that the Examiner pass the case to issue at the earliest convenience. Should the Examiner have any question or wish to further discuss this application, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned at (248) 292-2920.

If for some reason Applicant has not requested a sufficient extension and/or have not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent the abandonment of this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-1097 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 26 October, 2006



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